

Ring in the New Year with a BART Flash Pass

The best way to celebrate New Year's Eve is by leaving your car at home and using BART's "New Year's Eve Flash Pass," good for unlimited rides on BART throughout the holiday evening.



The special New Year's Eve Flash Pass costs just \$6 and gets you unlimited rides on BART from 6 p.m. Saturday, December 31 to 3 a.m. Sunday, January 1.

Riders with passes simply flash them to the BART Station Agent and pass through the station entrance swing gate. No need to use the fare gates! Passes go on sale December 15. Get your BART New Year's Eve Flash Pass at Safeway stores in the greater Bay Area, the BART Customer Services Center at the Lake Merritt BART station, Transit Stores in the Embarcadero, Civic Center, Montgomery, Powell Street and Bay Fair stations and the "County Connection" store in the Walnut Creek BART station.

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Happy Holidays to you and yours...

With the holiday season now underway, BART extends the warmest wishes from our family to yours. The holidays are a perfect opportunity to reflect on what is truly important and here in the Bay Area we have much for which to be thankful. In particular, BART thanks you for your continuing ridership.

If your holiday plans involve air travel, don't forget you can take BART to San Francisco International or Oakland International airports. BART offers inexpensive long term parking at most East Bay stations with easy online reservations. Visit bart.gov/parking for information and reservations.

We wish you a happy, healthy and peaceful holiday season.

T.E. Margro

Thomas E. Margro, General Manager

BART is your ride to holiday fun

Sleighbells ring—are you listening? But in the lane, a traffic jam is glistening. Luckily, you can get to holiday festivities the easy way—just take BART.

This year, the American Conservatory Theater presents an all-new adaptation of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol." Families that make this classic an annual holiday ritual will have a new experience with a production that dispenses with the conventionally linear structure, emphasizing the ghost story in a world of colorful, dreamlike



visions. Through Dec. 24 at the Geary Theatre, 415 Geary St., San Francisco. BART: Montgomery, 4-block walk. Tickets and info: 415/749-2ACT.

The Lively Foundation's "Festival of Lights" celebrates holidays of light with music, comedy, dance and storytelling, Sunday, Dec. 11, at 3 p.m., Veterans Building Green Room, 401 Van Ness at McAllister, San Francisco. It's an easy walk from BART's Civic Center station. Tickets: www.ticketweb.com. Information: 415/346-8959.

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SF celebrates the season with HolidayFest

Take BART to the San Francisco Convention & Visitors Bureau's new HolidayFest program and enjoy events and festivities found only in San Francisco, only for the holidays.



Winter events and festivities in San Francisco include the new holiday favorite, Irving Berlin's "White Christmas," playing at the Orpheum Theatre through December 31. Take BART to Civic Center, exit the station at the Hyde/Market exit and you will be just steps away from the Orpheum. Take BART

to Embarcadero Station and lace up your skates at the Kristi Yamaguchi Holiday Ice Rink at Embarcadero Center. The rink is open through January 1, 2006. Witness the lighting of the 22-foot high Bill Graham Menorah in Union Square on December 25. The menorah will be in the square through January 1. Take BART to Powell Street. For more info, call 415/668-6178.

Full information on all of these holiday events and more can be found at www.sfholidayfest.com.

Take BART to KPFA Crafts and Music Fair

Ride BART to the 35th Annual KPFA Crafts & Music Fair December 11 and 12 and use a free and easy shuttle connection from BART's Civic Center Station to the Fair.

The KPFA Crafts & Music Fair features 225 thoughtfully juried craftsmakers & artists showing their work in a warm and spirited atmosphere, with foods from many cultures, international musicians performing live, and other spirit-bringers reflecting the Bay Area's great diversity.

Admission is \$8 for adults, \$5 for seniors or disabled, and under 17 free. Or buy an adult

2-day pass for just \$13. **Free shuttles run from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. between the KPFA Fair and Civic Center BART.**

For more information call 510/848-6767, ext. 611 or visit kpfa.org/craftsfair. To plan your BART ride, visit bart.gov.



Pez de Amor, (Fish of Love), papercut, Rick Jones, 2005

BART fares increase January 1

Effective Sunday, January 1, 2006, BART fares will increase by 3.7%. This is the first fare increase since January 2004.

The 3.7% increase is based on a formula that accounts for changes in inflation, both locally and nationally, reduced by .5% to account for increased operating efficiencies achieved by BART.

In addition, a 10-cent capital surcharge will be applied to trips made within Alameda, Contra Costa and San Francisco Counties, including Daly City. SamTrans has also asked for and received a 10 cent increase to the San Mateo County surcharge which is applied to trips that begin and end in San Mateo County, and to trips between the five SFO Extension stations (Colma, South San Francisco, San Bruno, SFO and Millbrae) and BART stations in San Francisco.

With the fare increase, the minimum BART fare will rise from \$1.25 to \$1.40.

Save money on your BART tickets by purchasing high-value tickets at a 6.25% discount. High-value tickets are available at Tickets-To-Go vendors throughout the Bay Area. For a complete listing of Tickets-To-Go vendors, visit bart.gov/tickets.



Green and red discount tix prices increase Jan. 1

On January 1, 2006, the green (seniors 65 and older) and red (disabled/youth) discount tickets will increase in price from \$6 to \$9. The increased cost is part of an effort to balance BART's budget.

The 62.5% discount offered to seniors, disabled and youth remains one of the highest discounts in the nation.

The ride value will remain \$24 for both green and red tickets.

Green and red discount tickets purchased for \$6 before January 1 do not expire and remain valid on BART.

Please call BART Customer Services at 510/464-7137 with any questions.

Baseball as America

Oakland Museum of California
1000 Oak St.
www.museumca.org or 510/238-2200
BART: Lake Merritt

Through Jan. 22: The first major exhibition to examine the relationship between the national pastime and American culture.

Wesla Whitfield in "High Standards"

The New Conservatory Theatre Center
25 Van Ness Ave. near Market, San Francisco
www.nctcsf.org or 415/861-8972
BART: Civic Center

Through Dec. 31: Widely acclaimed as one of the finest interpreters of American popular song, Whitfield performs with pianist Mike Greensill to make each song as fresh and new as the day it was written.

Brundibár

Berkeley Rep's Roda Theatre
2015 Addison St. at Shattuck, Berkeley
www.berkeleyrep.org, 510/647-2949
BART: Downtown Berkeley

Through Dec. 28: Local youth are featured in this musical fable by famed playwright Tony Kushner and legendary children's author Maurice Sendak, an allegory of innocence triumphing over evil.

Majestic Tapestries of Magnolia Editions: Woven Works by Contemporary Painters

Dean Leshner Regional Center for the Arts
1601 Civic Dr., Walnut Creek, 925/295-1417
BART: Walnut Creek

Through Jan. 29: 30 tapestry renditions of original paintings by present-day artists, digitally translated into an ancient art form.

"BART is your ride to holiday fun" continued from front

Hop on BART to the San Francisco Ballet's traditional **"Nutcracker."** Through Dec. 29 at War Memorial Opera House, 301 Van Ness at Grove, San Francisco (BART: Civic Center). Information: www.sfballet.org.

African-American gospel tradition and Christmas blend in the Lorraine Hansberry Theatre's soulful **"Black Nativity,"** through Dec. 24, 620 Sutter St. at Mason in San Francisco (BART: Powell, 6-block walk). Information: www.lhtsf.org or 415/474-8800.

Of course BART gets you to all your retail shopping venues too. For a special shopping experience that puts the "art" into BART, ride the train to crafts festivals and tours.

Spend a day checking out the **Berkeley Artisans Holiday Open Studios** at locations around Berkeley, Saturdays-Sundays Dec. 10-11 and 17-18, 11 a.m.-6 p.m. each day. Many of the studios are close to Downtown Berkeley, North Berkeley and Ashby Stations—see map for details: www.berkeleyartisans.com or 510/845-2612.

The Berkeley Farmers' Market offers its **Holiday Crafts Fair** on Saturdays, Dec. 10 and 17. Shop for organic produce, hand-crafted gifts and hear live music 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at Martin Luther King Jr. Civic Center Park next to the Farmers' Market, 1 block from Downtown Berkeley BART. Information: www.ecologycenter.org or 510/548-3333.

BART "Rider Thank You Day" December 13

BART and the Northern California Independent Booksellers Association have come together to offer BART riders a terrific holiday gift—\$10 off a selection of great new books.

Booksellers and BART staff will be handing out a special edition of the monthly "Booksense" brochure Tuesday,

December 13 from 6:00 to 9:00 a.m. at the Downtown Berkeley, Rockridge, Embarcadero, Montgomery, Powell and Civic Center BART stations.

Riders who take the brochure to participating independent booksellers will receive \$10 off the cover price of any book reviewed inside.

BARToon grimescartoons.com

If driving's a fuzzy proposition
Don't risk it. Take BART.

Or call a cab. Or sober friend.
Or stay put and sleep it off.



And Have a Safe & Happy New Year!

